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PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Kazutoshi HARAGUCHI**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **May 25, 2001**

For: **ORGANIC/INORGANIC HYBRID HYDROGEL AND MANUFACTURING
METHOD THEREFOR**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 25, 2001

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 12 and 14 as follows:

3. (Amended) An organic/inorganic hybrid hydrogel according to claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the water swelling clay mineral (B) to the water soluble polymer (A) is within a range of 0.01 to 10.

4. (Amended) An organic/inorganic hybrid hydrogel according to claim 1, wherein said water soluble polymer (A) includes polymers obtained by polymerization of acrylamide derivatives and/or methacrylamide derivatives.

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